A containerization and palletizing system 30 is shown in FIG. 1. The system 30 includes two cells 32 and 34 each equipped with a gantry or overhead-type robot 36. Although not shown, the invention may be implemented with just one cell and one robot as well as other types of robots. Each cell 32, 34 has a frame 38 which may be secured to a hard surface such as a concrete floor 40. The space between the frame members may be enclosed with a perimeter fence 42, a mesh, a similar material, or even other types of walls. One or more gates or doors 44 may be provided to permit access to the interior of the cell. Each cell 32, 34 has a plurality of locations or bays 46 for pallets 49 and carts 50. Sensors (not shown) sense the presence or absence of pallets 49 and carts 50 (generically referred to as "containers") in a bay and that information is communicated to a system controller 55. The system controller 55 includes a sort scheme module 56 (FIG. 2). The sort scheme module 56 can accept a sort scheme 57 as input or generate the presently programmed sort scheme as output in the form of a printed form or an image on a display (not shown). The system controller 55 also includes a database module 58 that includes a database of destination assignments for the system. The database module 58 also receives destination codes or, more broadly, item identifiers as read by item reader (discussed below) through a controller interface 59. The controller interface 59 may be a software-based programmable logic controller. The controller interface 59 receives input position data from a conveyor system (discussed below) and container present information from the docking stations or bays 46 in the system 30. Container identifying information is read and supplied to the database module 58. Location information, such as destination assignments for containers in the bays 46, is transferred from the database module to the robot controllers (discussed below) and the controller interface 59.

On page 6, delete the paragraph beginning at line 17 and replace it with:

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In the embodiment described herein, each cell 32, 34 is divided into two zones Z_1 and Z_2 (FIGS. 3, 4, and 5) and each door 44 provides access to a zone. For the embodiment shown in FIG. 4, the cell 32 is divided into zone Z_1 with locations 119, 121, and 123 and zone Z_2 with locations 113, 115, and 117. Cell 34 is divided into zone Z_1 with locations 107, 109, and 111 and zone Z_2 with locations 101, 103, and 105. The embodiment shown in FIG. 5 is similarly configured. Cell 32 of FIG. 5 has zones Z_1 and Z_2 and locations 13-24. Cell 34 of FIG. 5 has zones Z_1 and Z_2 and locations 1-12.

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